For the Northern District of California

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ALVIN A. AUGUSTINE, Plaintiff, vs.) No. C 09-01493 JW (PR)) ORDER OF DISMISSAL
PLEASANT VALLEY STATE PRISON, et al., Defendants.	
-	<u> </u>

Plaintiff filed a pro se civil rights complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. On April 20, 2009, Plaintiff filed a letter with this Court indicating that he does not wish to proceed with the instant action. (Docket No. 4.)

A plaintiff has the absolute right to dismiss his or her action by filing a notice of dismissal "at any time before service by the adverse party of an answer or of a motion for summary judgment." Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(i). Said dismissal may be with or without prejudice, but unless plaintiff's notice of dismissal states otherwise, it is deemed to be "without prejudice." See Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1); Humphreys v. United States, 272 F.2d 411, 412 (9th Cir. 1959). No court order is required. Plaintiff's notice of dismissal is effective by itself to terminate the action: "[A]n action may be dismissed by the plaintiff without order of the court . . . by

filing a notice of dismissal." Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1); see also <u>Hamilton v.</u>
<u>Shearson- Lehman American Exp. Inc.</u> , 813 F.2d 1532, 1534-1536 (9th Cir. 1987)
(Rule 41(a)(1)(i) does not require leave of court to dismiss the action).

Plaintiff's letter, which the court construes as his "Notice of Dismissal," was filed before service by the adverse party of an answer. Therefore, the Court finds that plaintiff has the absolute right to dismiss his action voluntarily. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(i). Based on plaintiff's request for voluntary dismissal, this action is DISMISSED without prejudice. See id.

The clerk shall terminate all pending motions as moot.

May 13, 2009 DATED:

nited States District Judge

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ALVIN A. AUGUSTINE,	Case Number: CV09-01493 JW
Plaintiff,	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
v.	
PLEASANT VALLEY STATE PRI al.,	SON, et
Defendants.	
Court, Northern District of Californ	
That onattached, by placing said copy(ies) i	, I SERVED a true and correct copy(ies) of the n a postage paid envelope addressed to the person(s) l envelope in the U.S. Mail, or by placing said copy(ies) into ocated in the Clerk's office.
Alvin A. Augustine K-02298 Mule Creek State Prison 4001 Highway 104 P. O. Box 409099 Ione, Ca 95640	
Dated: 5/28/2009	
	Richard W. Wieking, Clerk /s/ By: Elizabeth Garcia, Deputy Clerk